

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 have been canceled, without prejudice.

Claim 43 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-13, 48, 52, 54, and 56 under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as being anticipated by Ismail et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,614,987.

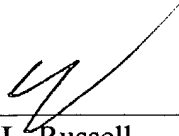
Ishmail et al. disclose a system for television program recording with user attribute information and program attribute information. The program attribute information is organized in the form of a set of defined descriptors. For example, the descriptions may include a theme description and a sub-theme description with movie and comedy, respectively. In essence, Ishmail et al. disclose a structure that includes predefined descriptions, in a manner similar to a long list of potential options.

Claims 6, 17, 30, 42, 48, and 54 patentably distinguish over Ishmail et al. by claiming that the first hierarchical levels includes at least two levels with a first user attribute information of a first level associated with both a second and a third user attribute information of a second level, and that the second hierarchical levels includes at least two levels with a first program attribute information of a first level associated with both a second and a third program attribute information of a second level.

There is no suggestion in Ishmail et al. to include such a hierarchical structure. In addition, there is no mechanisms within Ishmail et al. to use such a hierarchical structure, even if they were included.

Claims 7-16, 18-29, 31-41, 43-47, 49-53, and 55-61 depend from their respective independent claim and are patentable for the same reasons asserted for the independent claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Dated: November 24, 2004



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